

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**Bureau of Labor Statistics****Business Research Advisory Council;
Notice of Meetings and Agenda**

The regular Spring meetings of the Business Research Advisory Council and its committees will be held on April 8, 9, and 30, 1998. All of the meetings will be held in the Conference Center of the Postal Square Building, 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, Washington, DC.

The Business Research Advisory Council and its committees advise the Bureau of Labor Statistics with respect to technical matters associated with the Bureau's programs. Membership consists of technical officials from American business and industry.

The schedule and agenda for the meetings are as follows:

Wednesday, April 8, 1998—Meeting Rooms 9 & 10

10–11:30 a.m.—Committee on Employment Projections

1. Graphic presentation of 1996–2006 projections
2. The OEP Internet: Some new information
3. Open discussion of ways to improve OEP's projections publications
4. Ongoing OEP projections
5. Discussion of items for Fall 1998 meeting

1:30–2:30 p.m.—Committee on Price Indexes

1. Update on program developments
 - a. Producer Price Indexes
 - b. The Consumer Price Index
2. Other business

3–4:30 p.m.—Committee on Productivity and Foreign Labor Statistics

1. Report on recent developments in the Office of Productivity and Technology
2. International comparisons of unit labor costs
3. Recent trends in productivity measures for major sectors of the U.S. economy
4. The new BLS industry productivity data set

Thursday, April 9, 1998—Meeting Rooms 9 & 10

8:30–11:30 a.m.—Committee on Employment and Unemployment Statistics

1. Update on program developments
2. Other business

10:30–12:30 p.m. Council Meeting

1. Chairperson's opening remarks

3. Discussion with the Associate Commissioner, Office of Publications

4. Chairperson's closing remarks

1:30–3 p.m. Committee on Compensation and Working Conditions

1. Factors explaining wage variation in the National Compensation Survey
2. OCWC Compensation Data on the Internet
3. Benefits in the National Compensation Survey

Thursday, April 30, 1998—Meeting Room 4

1:30–3 p.m.—Committee on Occupational Safety and Health Statistics

1. Review of industry summary news release for the 1996 Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses
2. Review of the worker demographics and case characteristics news release for the 1996 Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses.
3. Update on Occupational Safety and Health Administration plans for revising its recordkeeping guidelines.

The meetings are open to the public. Persons with disabilities and those wishing to attend these meetings as observers should contact Nancy Sullivan, Bureau of Labor Statistics, at (202) 606–5903, for appropriate accommodations.

Signed at Washington, DC the 23rd day of March 1998.

William G. Barron, Jr.,

Deputy Commissioner.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**Employment Standards Administration****Wage and Hour Division****Minimum Wages for Federal and Federally Assisted Construction;
General Wage Determination Decisions**

General wage determination decisions of the Secretary of Labor are issued in accordance with applicable law and are based on the information obtained by the Department of Labor from its study of local wage conditions and data made available from other sources. They specify the basic hourly wage rates and fringe benefits which are determined to be prevailing for the described classes of laborers and mechanics employed on construction projects of a similar character and in the localities specified therein.

The determinations in these decisions of prevailing rates and fringe benefits have been made in accordance with 29 CFR Part 1, by authority of the Secretary of Labor pursuant to the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act of March 3, 1931, as amended (46 Stat. 1494, as amended, 40 U.S.C. 276a) and of other Federal statutes referred to in 29 CFR Part 1, Appendix, as well as such additional statutes as may from time to time be enacted containing provisions for the payment of wages determined to be prevailing by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act. The prevailing rates and fringe benefits determined in these decisions shall, in accordance with the provisions of the foregoing statutes, constitute the minimum wages payable on Federal and federally assisted construction projects to laborers and mechanics of the specified classes engaged on contract work of the character and in the localities described therein.

Good cause is hereby found for not utilizing notice and public comment procedure thereon prior to the issuance of these determinations as prescribed in 5 U.S.C. 553 and not providing for delay in the effective date as prescribed in that section, because the necessity to issue current construction industry wage determinations frequently and in large volume causes procedures to be impractical and contrary to the public interest.

General wage determination decisions, and modifications and supersedeas decision thereto, contain no expiration dates and are effective from their date of notice in the **Federal Register**, or on the date written notice is received by the agency, whichever is earlier. These decisions are to be used in accordance with the provisions of 29 CFR Parts 1 and 5. Accordingly, the applicable decision, together with any modifications issued, must be made a part of every contract for performance of the described work within the geographic area indicated as required by an applicable Federal prevailing wage law and 29 CFR Part 5. The wage rates and fringe benefits, notice of which is published herein, and which are contained in the Government Printing Office (GPO) document entitled "General Wage Determinations Issued Under the Davis-Bacon And Related Acts," shall be minimum paid by contractors and subcontractors to laborers and mechanics.

Any person, organization, or governmental agency having an interest in the rates determined as prevailing is encouraged to submit wage rate and fringe benefit information for consideration by the Department.